8:Armstrong & Métraux E-4 (no date) 1948
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the other. Many other cases indicate the absolute nature of *Goajiro* law and the refusal to recognize extenuating circumstances. 672

Murder is a very serious crime, and the victim's family immediately demands blood money to the amount of 200 or more cattle. For failure to pay, a member of the murderer's sib of the same rank as the victim must forfeit his life. If payment is not forthcoming retaliatory raids are made. As the defenders generally lose more people than the attackers, the feud may continue indefinitely until all the members of one sib will consider themselves at war with the members of the other, thereby spreading the war throughout the peninsula. If a feud should develop between the sib of the husband and that of the wife, the latter, with her children, will return to her own group until the trouble is over. 682 628

A person who has received a deadly insult from another is baited and chided until he takes revenge by killing the offender, in proof of which he removes the victim's viscera and takes them home. This act also prevents the victim's soul from bothering him. If unable to accomplish this he may commit suicide. Suicide is also sometimes a means of vengeance, a person feeling that he will suffer less than those who caused him to commit the act. Thus a wife who is not allowed enough freedom may hang herself. 683 762

Next to murder, one of the most serious offenses is to mention a person's true name (given at birth?) or to mention a person's name after his death. This has caused many tribal conflicts. 689

The value of the compensation demanded in disputes varies directly with the social rank of the offended party. In some cases a repeated offender may be killed by his own sib members. Sometimes, rather than to continue the warfare, hostile sibs may confer under the auspices of an outsider, such as a Capuchin monk, and draw up peace terms. In personal quarrels or minor brawls women often step in and enforce peace. 681 565 728

WARFARE

Wars between the *Goajiro* and outsiders are rare, but any White man may be held liable for the offense done by another, as all Whites are thought to belong to the same sib. Sometimes the few civilized people living in the peninsula take vengeance on the Indians, which leads to further reprisals by the latter. 721 609

At the time of De la Ross, war was declared by sending to the other tribe an ambassador who, in a public speech, asked indemnities for damage previously done. If these were not conceded war was declared, but a brief truce was observed in order that preparations might be made. In battle each group of opposing warriors formed a semicircle and tried to surround and destroy the other. In individual encounters a *Goajiro* rode out on a horse, but, upon seeing the enemy, he dismounted and shot his own horse with an arrow to show his confidence and willingness to fight 721 726